



Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Division of Energy fact sheet

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What is the *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program*?

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, or Recovery Act, the U.S. Department of Energy is providing funds for the State Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate program, or SEEARP. Missouri was allocated \$5.67 million in Recovery Act funds to participate in this program. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Division of Energy will use these funds to establish new appliance rebate programs or to augment existing state programs. Every state has specific energy needs, so rebate programs may look different from state to state. The department's Division of Energy will administer rebates to consumers for purchasing ENERGY STAR® qualified home appliances. This state rebate is in addition to any rebate program your local utility may offer.

When will the appliance replacement rebate program begin in Missouri and how long will it last?

Missouri plans to launch the program on April 19, 2010. With every state offering the ENERGY STAR appliance rebate program, the manufacturers and retailers needed time to ramp up production and stock stores before the program launch date. The rebate program will continue as long as Missouri has money to support it. While the state has until February 2012 to spend the rebate money, it is likely that the funding will go quickly.

Am I guaranteed a rebate if I purchase an appliance during the program open period?

No, the *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program* is unable to guarantee a rebate. The program will provide rebates for ENERGY STAR appliances on a first-come, first-serve basis as long as the money lasts.

What is the purpose of this program?

The *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program* is designed to assist consumers in replacing inefficient appliances with those that use less energy and water. This program was funded through the Recovery Act to stimulate the economy by encouraging consumers to purchase new appliances. Purchasing new appliances will help create jobs for appliance manufacturers and retail stores. The program is also designed to encourage consumers to save energy, and to lower their monthly bills through the use of more efficient appliances.

What is the ENERGY STAR program?

ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or EPA, and the U.S. Department of Energy, or DOE, designed to help consumers save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices. All appliances and products

with the ENERGY STAR label meet strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the EPA and DOE. These appliances are designed to use less energy and less water than regular appliances and help the consumer save money each month on their utility bills.

What is an ENERGY STAR appliance and where can I find them?

Appliances that are ENERGY STAR qualified have passed stringent government testing proving they are the top 25 percent most energy efficient products in the market. ENERGY STAR qualified products are marked with the blue ENERGY STAR logo. Residents must purchase their new ENERGY STAR appliance from a participating retailer or installation contractor in Missouri. Consumers can not order the new appliances online. For more information on ENERGY STAR, visit: www.energystar.gov.

What appliances will be covered and what are the rebate amounts?

The *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program* will issue rebates for the following items that are ENERGY STAR qualified. The rebates will not cover the cost of proper installation, only the appliance cost. Purchases of appliances and equipment prior to the start of the program will not be eligible for rebates. The program will not issue rebates for semi-used ENERGY STAR appliances. The appliances must be new and not previously used. Eligible ENERGY STAR appliances include:

Appliance Type	Rebate Amount
Category 1 – Space Heating: Gas Furnace	\$125
Category 2 – Space Cooling: Central Air Conditioning Air Source Heat Pump	\$100 \$250
Category 3 – Water Heating: Water Heater – Gas Storage Water Heater – Gas Tankless Water Heater – Electric Heat Pump Water Heater – Solar (gas or electric backup)	\$100 \$100 \$150 \$500
Category 4 – Clothes Washer: Clothes Washer	\$75
Category 5 - Dishwasher: Dishwasher (tabletop models not included)	\$75

Who is eligible for the *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program*?

Only full-time Missouri residents are eligible for the program. There is no income limit for the program. Homeowners must be 18 years of age or older and must purchase the new appliances from participating Missouri retailers or installation contractors, not online. The program is intended primarily for families, with not more than one rebate per appliance category allowed for each household. If a homeowner owns more than one house, each address is eligible for the appliance rebates provided the second home is a residence and not rental property. The U.S. Department of Energy requires the states to restrict the program to the replacement of existing appliances. Therefore, the *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program* will not be able to provide rebates to homeowners who have built a new home and will need new appliances for the home. The program can, however, issue a rebate to replace an existing clothes washer that was moved to the new home.

Rental Property Owners or Commercial Enterprises

The *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program* does not apply to rental property owners or commercial enterprises. The guidance provided to the states by the DOE was very specific that the program is intended for personal use in a residence and is not to be used for commercial purchase. They believe commercial business owners have other opportunities to save money at retailers that are not available to regular consumers.

Renters

Renters only qualify for the purchase of an ENERGY STAR qualified clothes washer since other major appliances are provided by the rental property owner.

Why are refrigerators, freezers and room air conditioners not included in the program?

There are a variety of reasons why the *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program* does not include several of the white goods and room air conditioners. Some of these include the following:

- One of the largest users of energy in a single family home is the Heating, Ventilation Air Conditioning system, or HVAC. Replacing older HVAC systems with ENERGY STAR units can provide the single largest increase in a home's energy efficiency, and subsequently the largest cost savings.
- Many utilities also have rebate programs of \$200-\$400 for the installation of high efficiency HVAC systems. If a homeowner qualifies for both, the savings on purchase is significantly increased. For a list of utility incentives, visit www.dsireusa.org.
- Replacing old HVAC systems is not only a matter of money; it can be a matter of safety. Older units can have undetected defects (such as a cracked heat exchanger) that can be extremely dangerous. Providing a significant rebate program may help some Missourians make the decision to replace older furnaces.
- The cost differential between ENERGY STAR qualified and traditional HVAC systems is much greater than the difference between ENERGY STAR and nonrated white goods. This means without a rebate it is more difficult for consumers to upgrade to an ENERGY STAR labeled HVAC system.
- The cost differential between ENERGY STAR qualified and traditional clothes washers and dishwashers is much greater than the difference between ENERGY STAR and nonrated refrigerators, freezers and room air conditioners. This means without a rebate it is more difficult for consumers to upgrade to an ENERGY STAR qualified clothes washer and dishwasher than to upgrade to an ENERGY STAR qualified refrigerator, freezer or room air conditioner.
- In the case of clothes washers and dishwashers, jobs may also be associated with installations. Clothes washers and dishwashers rated higher on actual replacement of an existing similar appliance. Upon review of existing Missouri utility rebates, clothes washers and dishwashers also rated higher in number of rebates available from these other sources. Higher ENERGY STAR criteria were also recently issued for clothes washers and dishwashers. Additionally, in consideration of the launch date, the department focused on a limited selection of appliance types, in order to avoid creating a lag time in sales for manufacturers and retailers for many different appliance types.
- There are no clothes dryers that currently qualify for the ENERGY STAR label.
- Some ENERGY STAR qualified appliances not eligible for Missouri's appliance rebate program (such as refrigerators and freezers) are eligible for sales tax reductions during the Show-me Green Sales Tax Holiday set for April 19-25, which may result in significant savings. April 19 is also the launch date for the appliance rebate program. For information

on the sales tax holiday, visit

<http://www.dor.mo.gov/tax/business/sales/taxholiday/green/faq.htm>.

- In the federal design for state programs, the DOE did not include funds for recycling. Recycling old appliances (such as refrigerators, freezers and room air conditioners) would be the only way to ensure old appliances were taken out of service. If Missouri had included more appliances to be recycled, the required administrative costs would have significantly reduced the number of rebates that could be offered.

Does the appliance we are replacing have to be older than a certain date? Or be a certain size? Or be below a certain efficiency level?

No. The purchased appliance must be full-sized according to industry standard and ENERGY STAR qualified.

How much energy can I save when I replace a used appliance with a new ENERGY STAR-qualified model?

Energy savings will depend on the specific appliance and model being replaced, but new ENERGY STAR appliances are designed to save more energy than those manufactured years ago. For example, replacing a clothes washer made before 2000 with a new ENERGY STAR model can save up to \$135 per year. The Web site www.energystar.gov has savings calculators and other tools to show how much energy you can save with a variety of household appliances.

Can consumers combine the rebate with other incentives, such as the federal tax credit or a utility rebate?

A consumer can combine a state rebate with the [federal tax credit](#) for the same product, as long as the purchase qualifies under the rules of both programs and is not specifically excluded. Consumers may also be able to combine the state rebate with a local utility rebate, but eligibility should be verified with both organizations. For more information on additional incentives and rebates, please see the [Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency](#).

Are there any other sources of rebates or tax credits?

- **Federal tax credits:** for federal tax credit information, please visit www.energystar.gov/taxcredits.
- **Show Me Green Sales Tax Holiday** – The Department of Natural Resources plans to launch the *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program* on April 19, 2010, to run concurrently with the Show Me Green Sales Tax Holiday. The sales tax holiday will run April 19-25. Information on the sales tax holiday is available on the Missouri Department of Revenue's Web site at <http://www.dor.mo.gov/tax/business/sales/taxholiday/green/faq.htm>. The *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program* may run longer than the sales tax holiday, if rebate funding is still available.
- **Missouri State Income Tax Deduction for Home Energy Audits** -- a state income tax deduction for qualified home energy audits and the recommendations of those audits began with the 2009 tax year. To qualify for the deduction, the home energy audit must be performed by an energy auditor certified by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Missouri taxpayers who have had a qualifying audit performed on their home may claim an individual income tax deduction for the cost of the energy audit and the cost of implementing energy-efficiency recommendations contained in the audit. The maximum deduction is \$1,000 per year, or \$2,000 cumulatively for multiple years.

- **Manufacturer's rebates** -- To find out about any available manufacturer's rebates, please visit www.energystar.gov, click on Products, and then click on Special Offers (green bar on the right). Enter your zip code for additional information.

Is there a recycling or turn in requirement for old appliances?

Only purchases that replace an existing appliance are eligible for a rebate. See the [ENERGY STAR Recycling](#) page for more information on appliance recycling. Consumer applying for rebates must provide proof that their old unit was taken out of service and properly recycled.

Consumers have several options to provide this proof.

1. Statement from the participating retailer or installation contractor indicating pick-up and recycling of the replaced appliance.
2. Receipt from a state approved recycling center where a consumer can drop off.
3. Receipt from appliance turn-in event, indicating the type of appliance turned in, signature of person receiving the appliance, and date and location of event.

Where can I find a list of recycling facilities to recycle my old appliance?

A list of *Major Appliance Collection Services in Missouri Communities* recycling facilities is available on the department's Web site at www.dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/docs/MajorAppliances8-17-04.pdf

How do I apply for the rebate?

Missouri plans to launch the *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program* on April 19, 2010. The participating retailers or installation contractors will provide a paper rebate application that must be mailed along with the original purchase receipt and verification of the old appliance being recycled. Most stores will provide you with two receipts, one to save for warranty work and the other to use for the rebate. It should take 3-4 weeks for rebates to be processed and sent to those eligible.

I'm an appliance retailer or installation contractor. How do I know what models fall under your rebate program? How do I register to become a participating partner?

All active ENERGY STAR models for this program will qualify for rebate eligibility. For a complete listing go to www.energystar.gov.

There will be a Web page and toll-free phone line for program details setup for retailers or installation contractors on or around March 31, 2010. The contractor will work with retailers and installation contractors on registering as a participating partner for the *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate Program*.

For More Information Contact

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